

IN THE CLAIMS

A listing of all claims and their current status in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) is provided below:

1. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

a dome having an inlet and an outlet, ~~said the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with said the distal end of said the airway tube;~~

an annular spoon-shaped inflatable cuff connected with the about a periphery of said the outlet of said the dome; and

a cuff inflation line ~~having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the~~ an internal space of said the cuff; and

wherein the outlet comprises an aperture having multiple lobes formed in said dome; said aperture configured to be in fluid communication with the proximal end of said airway tube, said dome having and a plurality of protrusions extending only partially into the forming said aperture, and wherein one of said the protrusions is relatively flexible as compared to the remainder of the plurality of protrusions configured to prevent the obstruction of said aperture by a patient's epiglottis when said device is inserted into said patient.

2. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein ~~said the relatively flexible one of the plurality of said protrusions comprises a flexible flap.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the relatively flexible one of the plurality of other of said protrusions is configured to push a patient's epiglottis in response to a device being inserted into the airway tube and through the aperture are less flexible than said one of said protrusions.

4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the relatively flexible said one of the plurality of said protrusions is larger than the remainder other of the plurality of said protrusions.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the protrusions are radially spaced about the outlet ~~a plurality of said multiple lobes are elongated.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 ~~further~~ comprising a protruding dome tip ~~connected with the~~ at a distal end of said the outlet of said the dome, said the protruding dome tip ~~having a distal end being located in and in fluid communication with said the internal space of said the cuff.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6 wherein the cuff inflation line passes through the protruding dome tip ~~said dome further comprises a groove and wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to fit in said groove.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said the outlet of said the dome ~~further~~ comprises a tray portion, and said wherein the cuff ~~further~~ comprises a channel on ~~the an~~ inner surface of the ~~annular-shaped~~ cuff, said the channel being connected with the periphery of said the outlet of said the dome at said the tray portion.

9. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein ~~said cuff's outer surface is formed in the absence of external protrusions, said the cuff further comprising~~ comprises a mold extraction orifice at its distal end formed on an ~~internal~~ inner surface of said the cuff, and wherein said the cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the internal space of said the cuff at an opening comprising said the mold extraction orifice.

10. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 ~~further~~ comprising a removable connector connected with said the proximal end of said the airway tube.

11. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said the cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the internal space of said the cuff at a distal end of said the cuff; and

~~an inflation line insertion point offset distally from said proximal end of said airway tube, said insertion point being the proximal end and integral with said internal passage.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 11 wherein at least a portion of the ~~length of~~ said cuff inflation line is placed in said comprises a passage formed along a portion of the airway tube opposite the outlet of the dome.

13. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

a dome having an inlet and an outlet, ~~said~~ the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with ~~said~~ the distal end of ~~said~~ the airway tube;

an ~~annular spoon-shaped~~ inflatable cuff connected with the about a periphery of ~~said~~ the outlet of ~~said~~ the dome;

a cuff inflation line ~~having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the~~ an internal space of ~~said~~ the cuff; and

a protruding dome tip ~~connected with the~~ at a distal end of ~~said~~ the outlet of ~~said~~ the dome, the cuff inflation line extending through the protruding dome tip ~~said the protruding dome tip's distal end being located in and in fluid communication with said internal space of said cuff.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The device of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 21 wherein ~~said~~ the protruding dome tip comprises a slit at its distal end, so as to cause ~~said~~ the protruding dome tip to maintain fluid communication with ~~said~~ the internal space of ~~said~~ the cuff when ~~said~~ the cuff is adjacent to ~~said~~ the distal end of ~~said~~ the protruding dome tip.

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 13 wherein ~~said~~ the protruding dome tip is less elastic flexible than ~~said~~ the cuff, so as to ~~prevent said~~ oppose the cuff from folding back on itself when ~~said~~ the device is inserted into a patient.

16. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

a dome having an inlet and an outlet, ~~said~~ the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with ~~said~~ the distal end of ~~said~~ the airway tube, ~~said outlet having a tray portion;~~

~~an annular spoon-shaped inflatable cuff, said cuff having a channel on the inner surface of the annular-shaped cuff, said channel being connected with the about a periphery of said the outlet of said the dome at said tray portion; and~~

~~a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the an internal space of said the cuff, at least a portion of the cuff inflation line being formed along a portion of the airway tube opposite the outlet of the dome.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

~~an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

~~a dome having an inlet and an outlet, said the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with said the distal end of said the airway tube, said outlet having a tray portion;~~

~~an annular spoon-shaped inflatable cuff connected with the about the periphery of said the outlet of said the dome, said cuff's outer surface formed in the absence of external protrusions, said the cuff comprising a mold extraction orifice at its distal end formed on an internal surface of said the cuff; and~~

~~a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the an internal space of said the cuff at an opening comprising said the mold extraction orifice.~~

18. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

~~an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

~~a dome having an inlet and an outlet, said the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with said the distal end of said the airway tube;~~

~~an annular spoon-shaped inflatable cuff connected with the about a periphery of said the outlet of said the dome;~~

~~a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the an internal space of said the cuff; and~~

a removable connector connected with said the proximal end of said the airway tube, the removable connector having a cylindrically-shaped distal end the length of which is sized to be press-fit into the proximal end of the airway tube.

19. (Currently Amended) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, ~~said airway tube having an internal passage in the airway tube wall;~~

a dome having an inlet and an outlet, ~~said the inlet of the dome connected at its inlet with said the distal end of said the airway tube;~~

an ~~annular spoon-shaped~~ inflatable cuff connected with the about a periphery of said the outlet of said the dome; and

a cuff inflation line ~~having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein said cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the an internal space of said the cuff and having an outlet at a distal end of said the cuff; and~~

~~an inflation line insertion point offset distally from said proximal end of said airway tube, said insertion point being the proximal end and integral with said internal passage.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 19 wherein a portion of the length of ~~said the~~ cuff inflation line is placed in ~~said a~~ passage formed in a wall of the airway tube.

21. (New) The device of claim 13, wherein the cuff inflation line passes through the protruding dome tip.

22. (New) The device of claim 13, wherein the cuff inflation line reinforces the length of the dome.

23. (New) The device of claim 16, wherein the cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the internal space of the cuff at a distal end of the cuff.

24. (New) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end;

a dome having an inlet and an outlet comprising an aperture, the inlet of the dome connected with the distal end of the airway tube;

an inflatable cuff connected about a periphery of the outlet of the dome;
a cuff inflation line configured to be in fluid communication with an internal space of the cuff; and

no more than one flexible epiglottis barrier attached to the outlet of the dome, the flexible epiglottis barrier extending only partially into the aperture.

25. (New) The device of claim 24, wherein the flexible epiglottis barrier functions as a human epiglottis during the ebb and flow of air through the device.

26. (New) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end;
a dome having an inlet and an outlet comprising an aperture, the inlet of the dome connected with the distal end of the airway tube;

an inflatable cuff connected about a periphery of the outlet of the dome;
a cuff inflation line configured to be in fluid communication with an internal space of the cuff; and

at least three protrusions radially offset from one another and attached to the outlet of the dome, the at least three protrusions extending only partially into the aperture.

27. (New) A laryngeal airway device comprising:

an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end;
a dome having an inlet and an outlet, the dome connected at its inlet with the distal end of the airway tube;

an inflatable cuff connected with a periphery of the outlet of the dome, the cuff having a proximal end and a distal end; and

a cuff inflation line in fluid communication with the distal end of the cuff such that upon inflation, the cuff inflates from its distal end.

28. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein at least a portion of the inflation line is embedded in the dome.

29. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the airway tube has a wall with inner and outer surfaces, and at least a portion of the inflation line runs along the tube between the inner and outer surfaces.

30. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the dome has a proximal end and a distal end, the dome further comprising a protrusion extending from its distal end into the cuff.

31. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the inflation line is in fluid communication with the protrusion.

32. (New) The device according to claim 30, wherein the protrusion is less elastic than the cuff.

33. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the dome comprises a groove and wherein the cuff inflation lines runs in the groove.

34. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the outlet of the dome comprises a tray portion, and the cuff comprises a channel on the inner surface of the cuff, the channel being connected with the periphery of the outlet of the dome at the tray portion.

35. (New) The device according to claim 27, wherein the cuff comprises a mold extraction orifice at its distal end formed on an internal surface of the cuff, and wherein the cuff inflation line is configured to be in fluid communication with the internal space of the cuff at an opening comprising the mold extraction orifice.

36. (New) The device according to claim 27, comprising a removable connector connected with said proximal end of the airway tube.

37. (New) The device according to claim 27, comprising an inflation line insertion point offset distally from the proximal end of the airway tube.

38. (New) The device according to claim 29 wherein the dome comprises a front side and a back side, the front side including the dome outlet, the airway tube comprising a front side

and a back side, the distal end of the back side of the tube being connected to the back side of the dome, said inflation line running along the back side of the tube.

39. (New) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:
an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end;
a dome having an inlet and an outlet, the outlet having a proximal end and a distal end, the dome connected at its inlet with the distal end of said airway tube;
an inflatable cuff having a proximal end and a distal end, an inside and an outside, and connected with the periphery of the outlet of the dome;
a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end; and
a protruding dome tip extending from the distal end of the dome outlet into the inside of the distal end of the cuff, the tip in fluid communication with the distal end of the inflation line and the inside of the cuff.

40. (New) The device according to claim 39, wherein the protruding dome tip is less elastic than said cuff.

41. (New) The device according to claim 39, wherein the airway tube has a wall with inner and outer surfaces, and at least a portion of the cuff inflation line is located between the inner and outer surfaces.

42. (New) A laryngeal airway device, comprising:
an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the tube having a wall comprising inner and outer surfaces, the tube having a front side and a back side;
a dome having an inlet and an outlet and a front side and a back side, the outlet located on the front side, the dome connected at its inlet with the distal end of said airway tube wherein the back side of the dome connects with the back side of the distal end of the tube, the dome defining an aperture between the inlet and the outlet and having at least one protrusion extending from the dome into the aperture;
an inflatable cuff having an inside and an outside and a proximal end and a distal end, the cuff connected with a periphery of the outlet of said dome;

a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end, the cuff inflation line in fluid communication with the inside of said cuff, wherein at least a portion of the line runs from the dome inlet to the dome outlet.

43. (New) The device according to claim 42, wherein the at least one protrusion is of insufficient length to contact the dome on both sides of the aperture.

44. A laryngeal airway device, comprising:
an airway tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the airway tube having an internal passage in a wall of the airway tube;
a dome having an inlet and an outlet and a proximal end and a distal end, the dome connected at its inlet with said distal end of said airway tube, the dome defining an aperture between the inlet and the outlet, the dome including no more than one flexible non-hinged protrusion partially extending into said aperture from the proximal end of said dome;
an inflatable cuff having an inside and an outside connected with a periphery of the outlet of the dome, the cuff having a distal end and a proximal end; and
a cuff inflation line having a proximal end and a distal end, wherein the distal end of the cuff inflation line is in fluid communication with the inside of the cuff such that upon inflation, the cuff is inflated from its distal end.

45. (New) The device according to claim 44, wherein the protrusion is of insufficient length to contact the dome on both sides of the aperture.

46. (New) The device according to claim 44, wherein the protrusion extends from the distal end of the dome into the inside of the cuff.

47. (New) The device according to claim 46, wherein the protrusion is less elastic than the cuff.

48. (New) The device according to claim 46, wherein the protrusion includes a passage therein in fluid communication with the cuff inflation line and the inside of the cuff.